

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include amendments to Figs. 1, 6, 7 and 8. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 4, 6, 7 and 8, replace the original sheets including these figures. Marked copies of the amended figures are also enclosed.

JAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
30 W. CUSHING STREET
TUCSON, AZ 85701
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567

REMARKS

The drawings have been amended to address the several objections raised by the Examiner in Ciphers 1-3 of the Action, with one exception. Namely, reference numeral 112' is mentioned at page 8, line 31 of the original specification.

The allowance of claims 53 and 88 is noted, with thanks. Notwithstanding, claim 88 has been amended to better conform to US practice.

Claims 27 and 87 have been cancelled thus rendering moot the objection of those claims. As to the remaining claims, independent claims 1 and 70 have been amended to clarify that the blade is a unitary blade and that the middle section is intermediate the first end and the second end of the blade. The '406 Patent doesn't teach this. In the Examiner's annotated Fig. 1, only one of the elements characterized as a "blade" actually is a blade, namely element 26. The other element which the Examiner also characterizes as a "blade" actually is a cover 34 (see the original drawing Fig. 4 and column 4, line 47-column 5, line 15 of the '406 Patent). Since the '406 Patent does not teach a unitary blade with a middle section intermediate the first end and the second end of the blade, and having a middle section with at least one outwardly extending lobe as required by independent claims 1 and 70, claims 1 and 70 and the several claims directly or indirectly dependent thereon, as the case may be, cannot be said to be anticipated by the '406 Patent.

New claims 90-127 are based on claims 86 or 88, as the case may be, and depend on claims 1 or 70, as the case may be. These claims all are allowable for the same reasons above adduced relative to claims 1 and 70, as well as for their own additional limitations.

RAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
30 W. CUSHING STREET
TUCSON, AZ 85701
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance.

The claims have been expanded to eliminate alternative language. Form PTO-2038 authorizing credit card payment in the amount of \$600.00 to cover the cost of 24 added dependent claims is enclosed.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



Norman P. Soloway
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 24,315

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 30, 2006 at Tucson, Arizona

By: 

NPS:ps

1AYES SOLOWAY P.C.
30 W. CUSHING STREET
TUCSON, AZ 85701
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567



MARKED COPY OF AMENDED DRAWINGS

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Serial No. 10/528,917
Docket No. MAX 02.01 CIP
"Annotated Marked-Up Drawings"

FIGURE 4

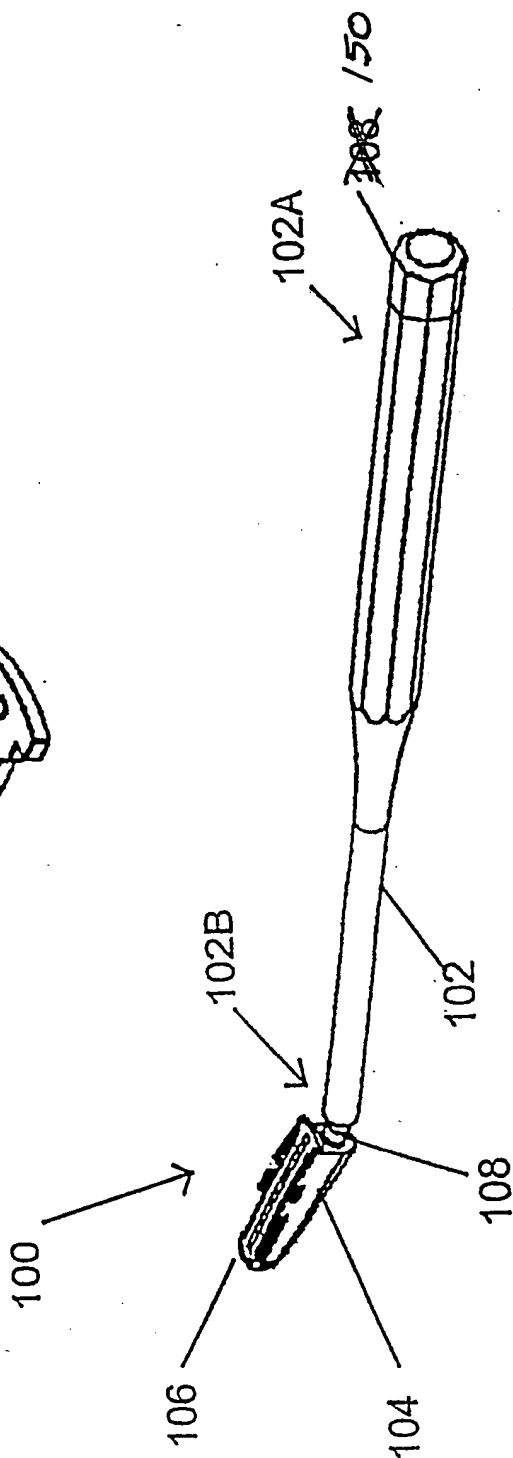
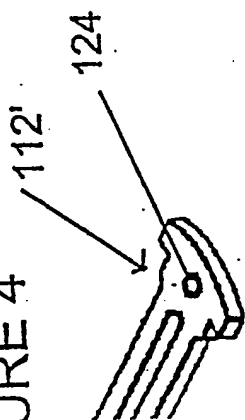
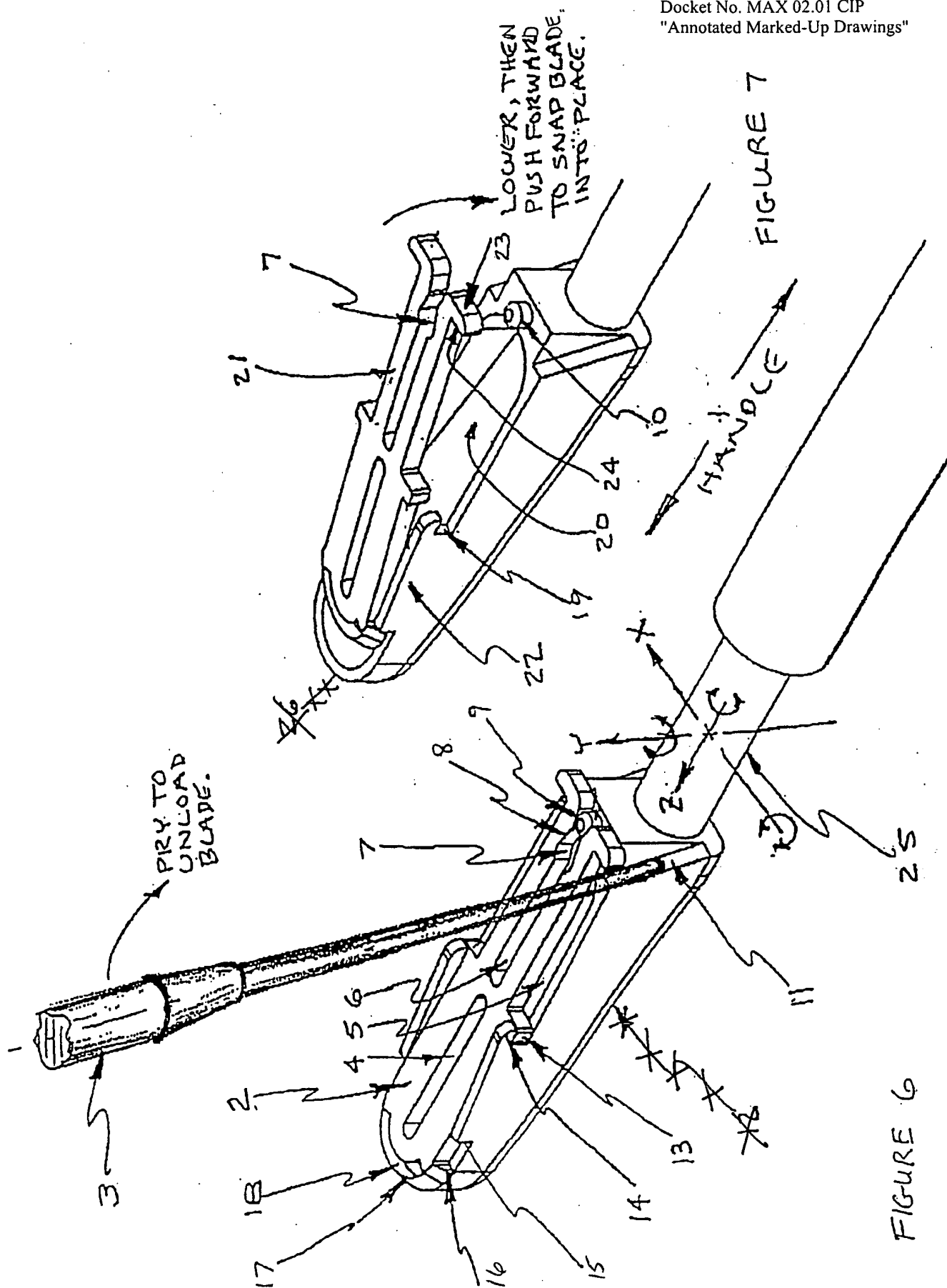


FIGURE 1



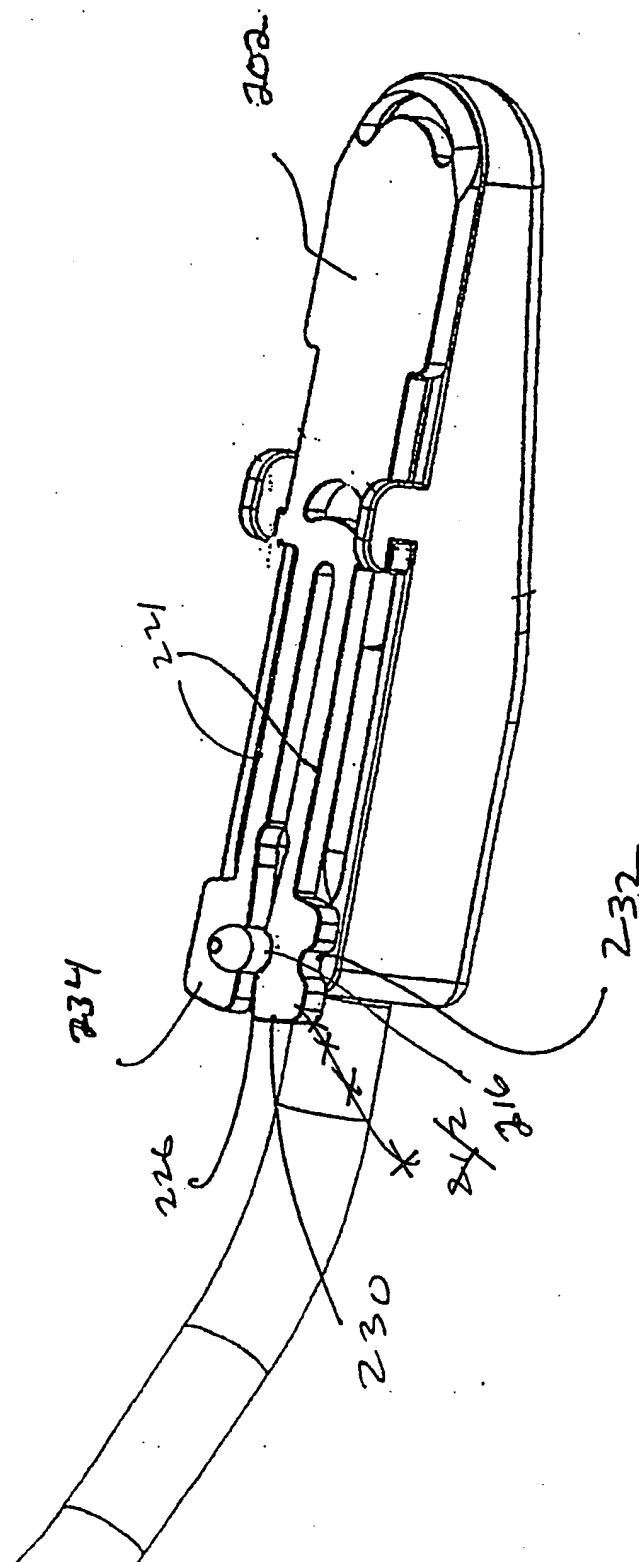


FIGURE 8